

Press Release
February 26, 2004
12

**U.S. Embassy to sponsor seminar on the rights
of Afro-Bolivian descendents in remembrance of Martin Luther King.**

The Public Affairs Section of the United States Embassy in Bolivia will sponsor a seminar on the rights of Afro-Bolivian descendents in remembrance of the ideals of Martin Luther King, leader of the civil rights movement in the United States. This event, to be held on Friday, February 27 at the Museo Tambo Quirchicho in La Paz, will be co-sponsored by three other civil society institutions: Enlace – Consultants for Development, Comai-Pachamama, and Educators for Democracy.

The seminar, entitled “The realities of Afro-Bolivian community under the light of Martin Luther King’s philosophy”, will open with a presentation by Rolf Olson, Cultural Attaché of the U.S. Embassy in Bolivia about the non-violent philosophy of Martin Luther King and its impact on American society and politics. Other presentations will include perspectives about the current realities of the Afro-Bolivian community, Afro-Bolivian spirituality, and the history of cultural expressions of Afro-Bolivians. The afternoon sessions will finish with a musical performance by Movimiento Cultural Saya Afroboliviano.

The objective of this event is to promote the culture of Afro-Bolivian descendents and to foster leadership within this community. This approach emphasizes the exchange of cross-cultural experiences.